# CONGRESS.

The Senate Toying with the Appropriations.

The Yerba Buena Grab Recommitted by the House.

#### ZEBULON B. VANCE'S DISABILITIES.

THE POST OFFICE APPROPRIATIONS.

Great Bursts of Eloquence Over Trade in the Orient.

THE PACIFIC MAIL SUBSIDY.

Supremacy of the Eastern Seas.

WASHINGTON, March 12, 1872. Mr. SHERMAN, (rep.) of Onio, from the Committee on Finance, reported adversely a bill to provide for he refunding to State officers of the tax paid on

Mr. PRATT, (rep.) of Ind., asked unanimous conent that the bill should be placed on the calendar, which was granted. He said the Supreme Court ad already decided that the tax on the salaries of the State Judges was unconstitutional, and he saw no reason why the same principle should not apply to all executive and administrative State officers. Mr. Morrill, (rep.) of Vt., gave hotice that when the bill should come before the Senate he would move to amend it, so as to provide for refunding all the taxes collected during the war, as they had un-doubtedly been very burdensome to the people, (Laughter.)

Laughter.)

A PLORIDA LAND JOB.
On motion of Mr. OSBORN, (rep.) of Fla., the bill of grant the right of way to the Guif Southern Railroad in Florida was taken up.
Mr. MORRILL, (rep.) of Me., opposed the bill, and ald this when the people sbould open their eyes to be action of Congress since 1866 in voting away the public domain to railroad corporations they would eastonished and indignant and would call their epresentatives to a strict account. The bill was bassed.

MR. CAMERON, (rep.) of Pa., offered a resolution sking the President to inform the Senate what mount of money has been expended by the government during the past three years for telegraph ervice, including cable despatones and the rates лорье. овтом, (rep.) of Ind., presented a petition, y 3,000 soldiers of Indiana, for a modifica-the Homestead law and equalization of

Ir. RAMSEY, (rep.) of Minn., from the Committee Post Offices and Post Roads, reported a bill horizing the construction of a bridge at Boone-e, Mo.

wille, Mo.

BILLS WERE INTRODUCED

and referred, as follows:—
By Mr. Windom, (rep.) of Mun.—To prevent the
destruction of timber on lands of the United
States. It makes the cutting or destruction of such
timber, without the authority of a competent officer
of the United States, an offence punishable by fine
and imprisonment not exceeding \$2,000 and twelve
months.

Mr. CORBETT, (rep. of Oregon—Providing that the for Representative in Congress shall here, be by written or printed ballot.
Mr. Davis, (rep.) of West Va.—For the relief larity Louge of Masons, of Harper's Ferry.
Mr. Johnston, (dem.) of Va.—Froviding for ayment of claims for rent arising in States ded to be in receibing; also to provide an ade-

payment of claims for rent arising in States de-ed to be in receiving; also to provide an ade-te supply of circulating medium for the States ding it. It directs the Secretary of the Treasury, in application of the Governors of the States, to ply them Treasury notes to an amount which, onnection with national bank notes already jur-ted, shall make \$8 for each inhabitant, provided estate security is given for the repayment of a sums in lifteen years. he Seuate then resumed the consideration of LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATION BILL.

pending question was on the amendment ug the law authorizing the publication of the

epealing the law authorizing the publication of the was in the newspapers.

Messrs. Pomeroy, (rep.) of kansas, and Nys, rep.) of Novada, opposed the amendment.

Messrs. Cappener, (rep.) of Wis., Flanagan, rep.) of Texas, Logan, (rep.) of Ill., and Corbert, rep.) of Oregon, also opposed it.

Mr. Pomeroy moved to lay the amendment on the table. Agreet to—yeas 22, mays 21.

An amendment was adopted appropriating \$50,000 or the publication of the laws in newspapers.

Mr. Edmunds, (rep.) of Vt., offered an amendment, providing that after the publication of the two of the present Congress the publication of the two in newspapers shall cease. Adopted.

An amendment was offered raising the salaries

laws of the present Congress the publication of the laws in newspapers shall cease. Adopted.

An amendment was offered raising the salaries of the Assistant Secretaries, the Second Comptroller, the Register, the Auditor, the Commissioner of Customs and the Superwising Architect of the Treasury Department, the Assistant Postmaster General, the superintendents of money orders and of the foreign mails, the Commissioner of the General Land Office, the Commissioner of Pensious and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, to \$4,000.

Mr. Sherman offered an amendment to the amendment, increasing the salaries of all the heads of bureaus in the departments to \$4,000. A motion to lay the amendment on the table was lost, aft. Sawyars, (rep.) of S. C., moved to add the Commissioner of Education to the list, Agreed to. Mr. Logan moved to add the Supervising Officer of the Marine Hospital.

This gave rise to discussion, pending which the Senate, at five P. M., adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

## WASHINGTON, March 12, 1372.

THE GOAT ISLAND STRAL. The bill granting to the Central Pacific Railroad Company the use of half the Island of Yerba Buena, in the Bay of San Francisco, was taken up and dis-M". HOLMAN, (dem.) of Ind., moved to lay the bill

on the table.

Pending the vote by yeas and nays on that motion

the SPRAKER called the attention of the House to the fact that yesterday, under the invitation to members to send up names of persons to be included in an amuesty bill, the name of Zebulon B. Vance, of North Carolina, had been sent up. There had

of North Carolina, had been sent up. There had been an implied obligation that no person should be included who came within the CATEGORY OF EXCEPTIONAL CASES in the general bill heretofore passed by the House, namely, members of Congress or onlicers of the Army and Navy who had resigned and given aid and comfort to the rebellion. He was glad that he did not know who had sent up the name of Mr. Vance, nor from which side of the House it had come. The question of that gentleman's relief from disability had been a matter of some consideration and discussion elsewhere, and the Chair regarded the insertion of his name as being in violation of good faith. He believed it had been done in ignosance of the understanding of the House.

Mr. Shoder (dem.) of N. C., remarked that Mr. Vance did not come within the category of excepted cases to which the Speaker had referred. He had not resigned his seat as a member of Congress.

The Straken said he must have been misinformed on that point,

mation that Mr. Vance had not resigned his seat as a member.
The Syraker remarked that it was well known, nevertheses, that objection would have been made to inserting the name of XERULON B. VANCE if it had been read to the House. He regretted that the gentlemen who had sent up the name did not now withdraw it.
Mr. VOORHEES, (dem.) of Ind., said he had understood that the gentleman who had sent up the name was not present to-day.
The Syraker repeated that he had done his enfire duty in calling the attention of the House to the matter. He regarded it as an abuse of the privilege conferred by the House.

hees, Wakeman, Warren, Wells, Wheeler, Willard and Williams of N. Y.—94.

The bill was then, on motion of Mr. Wheeler, (rep.) of N. Y., recommitted to the Committee on the Pacific Railroad, with liberty so to amend it as to provide that within one month after the passage of the bill the President of the United States shail appoint tarce Commissioners, who shall be authorized, at the expense of the Central Pacific Railroad Company, to hear the proofs and altegations of all parties interested in the subject matter of the bill, and who shail, within three montly after their appointment, award such sum for the USE OF SUCH HALF OF THE ISLAND as is granted by the bill as they shall deem just and equitable, and when award shail be paid by the Central Pacific Railroad Company before it shall avail itself of the grant.

Mr. Leach, (dem.) of N. C., referring to the matter of the Amnesty bill, said that he was not in the hall when the Speaker brought up that matter. He avowed that it was he who had served the proof of the shall when the Speaker brought up that matter.

of the Amnesty bill, said that he was not in the hall when the Speaker brought up that matter. He avowed that it was he who had sent up that matter. He avowed that it was he who had sent up that matter. He avowed that it was he who had sent up the had he was perfectly justified in doing so, as it was in consonance with the views of nine-tentas of the people of North Carolina, and as the House had already included hr. Vance in a bill of amnesty, with only eight or ten votes in the negative.

Mr. Bingham, (rep.) of Onio, moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed. Laid over. The Cessna-Myers case.

The contested election of Cessna against B. F. Myers, from the sixteenth Congressional district of Pennsylvania, was called up, and the resolution declaring Myers, the sitting member, entitled to the seat was adopted without discussion or division.

Mr. Wheeler entered a motion to reconsider the vote recommitting the Yerba Buena bill, so as to give the Committee on the Pacific Rahroads control of the bill to bring t belore the House at any time.

Mr. Holman moved to lay the motion to reconsider on the table. Negatived—yeas 68, nays 79, The bill therefore remains in the control of the committee.

The flouse then, at half-past two o'clock, went

chair, on the

POST OFFICE APPROPRIATION BILL.

Propositions by Mr. LEONARD MYERS, (rep.) of
Pa., to furnish letter carriers with uniforms at the
expense of the government, and by Mr. Butler,
(rep.) of Mass., requiring housenoiders to supply
boxes for the reception of mail matter, were disoussed and rejected.

Mr. Wood, (dem.) of N. Y., offered a formal amendment, and in his remarks criticised the statements of Mr. Dawes a few days since as to the

amendment, and in his remarks criticised the statements of Mr. Dawes a few days since as to the RECRIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

Of the government for the next coming fiscal year. He presented a tabular statement of the actual receipts from all sources for the first eight months of the present fiscal year, ended March 1, 1872. This includes receipts from dulles, internal revenue and miscellaneous sources, and amounts to \$250,509,883 50, which, together with the balance at the same ratio, would make a total for the present fiscal year of \$375,764,832 88. Against this the expenditures, as estimated by the Section of the Treasury, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1873, would be \$201,705,036 99. This estimate included over \$23,000,000 on account of the sinking fund, the payment of the interest on the public debt, &c., and included about \$800,000 more than Congress would vote for the improvement of rivers and harbors. It would thus be seen that there would be a surplus of over eighty-two millions. If \$25,000,000 on of the principal of the public debt it would leave

SEVENTY-FIVE MILLION TO BE REDUCED.

balance of cash on hand, which now amounted to over \$174,000,000.

Mr. Dawks, (rep.) of Mass, replied to Mr. Wood and said that the latter had not controverted a single item of what he (ar. Dawes) had stated as to the expenditures of the government. The gentleman from New York (dir. Wood) had indroved on the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. Kelley) by more than \$10,000,000 in his estimate of revenue, but he asked the House to consider whether it was exactly wise to go on in extravagant expenditures with no other resources to meet them than an expected increase in the revenue. The first six months' receipts of the current fiscal year multiplied by two would give the year's receipts at \$335,00,000,000, only

on Commerce, odered an amendment increasing the substdy for the MAIL SERVICE TO CHINA to \$100,000, provided that the service shall be semimonthly and in snips of American construction.

Mr. HOLMAN made a point of order on the amendment.

ment.

The Chairman overruled the point of order.

Arr. Holman appealed from the decision of the Chair, and the decision was maintained by a very large majority.

Mr. Sargent, (rep.) of Cal., spoke in favor of the chairman and showed the great importance of

Afr. SARGENT, (rep.) of Cal., spoke in favor of the amendment, and showed the great importance of developing steamship commerce with China and Japan. He predicted that it this subsidy were made the steamship service would be immediately increased to three trips per month without further expense to the government, and in two years to weekly service. He stated that the subsidy paid by the English government to the Oriental Steamship Company was \$450,000, or \$2,260,000 a year, and he showed that he amount of revenue derived from the trade with China carried on through the Pacific Mail Steamship Company more than compensated the government for the subsidy paid to it.

Mr. Wood, while admitting the great importance of maintaining the Pacific line of steamships, felt compelied, in the interest of the people, to oppose the amendment. He characterized it as wrong in principle and dangerous in practice.

Mr. Brooks differed from his colleague and spoke in favor of the amendment. The question was a struggle between.

and shows different from the struggle between

The United States and Great Britain
as to which should have the trade of 635,000,000 people in China, Japan, India, Ceylon, Borneo and sumatra. Great Britain appropriated \$2,500,000 for her subsidized line of steamers to those countries. War was not carried on by arms alone. There were wars more dignified and far more noble. Those were the wars of silps, of commerce, of trade, of navigation. In the struggle for the supremacy of the ocean Britanna now ruled the waves, and it was only this country that could wrest the trident from her grasp. It was a war with Great Britain for the trade of 600,000,000 human beings, and his feelings prompted him to stand on the side of this country. It had been his fortune or mistortune to see the struggle that was going on on those sees. The American flag on the Pacific Company's steamships already floated from San Francisco to Yokohama and from there almost to the very gates of Pekin. That company's steamers ran without any appropriation from the government as far north as Hakodadi, with a tendency to stretch towards the Russian sea. He beeged the House, without any distinction of party, to look upon the question, not alone as a question of money or of subsidy, but as a struggle for

garded the insertion of his name as being in violation of good faith. He believed it had been done in ignor above of the understanding of the House.

Mr. Shorker (dem.) of N. C., remarked that Mr. Cases to which the Speaker had referred. He had been done in the Speaker had referred. He had not resigned his seat as a member of Congress.

The Spraker said be must have been misinformed on that point,

Mr. Brooks (dem.) of N. Y., remarked that in consenting to the "general shurfle," it that was a proper word, he supposed that it included everybody are resigned that the House was frequently more charitable at one time than at another.

Mr. Potter, (dem.) of N. Y., asked whether the House had not instructed the Judiciary Committee to bring in an amnesty bill, including the names of all who had applied to Congress for relief.

The Sprakers and it did not follow that the House would pass such a bill.

Mr. Farnsworf, (rep.) of lil., remarked that the disabilities of several men wind had been done without thought of previous action of the House, he was glad that the definity had been done without thought of previous action of the House, he was glad that he and category of excepted on that gentleman, and he present the subsidized lines, there was the strongest belief among Americans in those Eastern seal not allowed to be overborne by the subsidized lines, there was the surportive of Americans and to a Question of the Grand was frequently more charitable at one time that it included everybody.

Mr. Brooks suggested that the House was frequently more charitable at one time than at another.

Mr. Potter, (rep.) of Ill., remarked that the House would pass such a bill.

Mr. Farnswore, (rep.) of Ill., remarked that the House would pass and the disabilities of several men with the disabilities of several men and the thing had been done without thought of previous action of the House, the word in the dark that the word in the east of the American flag would floatiful the whole system of subsidies.

Mr. Garrier, of Office, and the

to the Atlantic Ocean as a centre. When the human race left

GRECE, ROME AND CARTHAGE

It made the Atlantic Ocean the new centre of activity, and on that sea the great forces of modern civilization were now at play; but there was to be in the great new future another historic sea—the third and last in the history of the world's works. That sea was to be the Pacific Ocean. Just now the whole current of public thought and of national activity was turning to that mighty sea, and the question was who should be its possessor? Who should control it? We had belpiess! Jost, if, indeed, we ever had control, of the Mediterranean Sea, and, for the time being, he feared that we had also

our hand on

THE MANE OF THE PACIFIC OCEAN,
which we could ride as a mighty steed, but we were
to danger of being thrown from our place. If the
government did not give some help we should lose
our grasp on that mighty oncoming commerce
which was opening up. Never had there been a
time in the history of any nation when such a prospect was open-when such a future was within its
grasp to be seized and saved. For these reasons he
was ready to make this case an exception, and to
say that, in this great historic sea of the future, this
country should be the chief ruler and controller of
its mighty worlds.

Mr. BUTLER, (rep.) of Mass., opposed the amendment, and said he did not propose to deal with
words, but with things. All the money which went
into the Treasury was wrung by taxation from the
people for the purpose of carrying on their government, and for no other purpose. Congress had no
right to appropriate any of it for the advantage of
any other cause, however good, however high, nowever noble, and certainly it had no right to appropriate any of it for the benefit of private speculation.

Mr. Dawes, (rep.) of Mass., advocated the amend-

the great truth that commerce is not all on one side, that every dollar's worth which we take to other ports

COMES BACK TO US IN ANOTHER SHAPE

and enriches us; that commerce enriches those who engage in it on the one side and on the other. He would go not for this subsidy alone, but for every judicious expenditure of money which might be proposed for bounties to fishermen on the Eastern coast. (This last remark was directed to Mr. Buller, of Massachusetts.) There was, as the gentleman from New York had said, a mighty struggle as to whether all the treasures of the East should come through American ports, to be distributed among our people and taken in exchange for products, or whether they should be carried to us through European ports. He could not agree with the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. Brooks) that we should build us ships, open no harbors, erect no custom houses, expend no money to contribute to increase the commerce of the country, or that we should

or that we should be fee from all the regulations and rules of trade, and from all the regulations and rules of trade, and from all the laws of commerce and industry. He could not consent to go back to that condition of things even under the cogent reasoning of the gentleman from Indiana.

The discussion was further continued by Mr. Krlley, of Pennsylvania, in favor of the amendment, and by Messrs. Hollman and kris significant in the supremacy of England on the ocean was due, not to ner policy of subsidies, but to her rational and sensible policy of free trade—free trade in suips, free trade in from, in cotton, in woollen, and even in pig fron.

Without disposing of the amendment the committee rose, and the House, at a quarter to five o'clock, adjourned.

#### THE CUSTOM HOUSE INQUIRY.

General Hillyer's Letter on Porter or Parker and Leet's Detail-How the New York Convention Was Managed-Paying for Their Honors-Leet's Threat to Grinnell-That Dinner at Willard's.

The Senate Custom House Committee resumed

their examination this alternoon. A letter from General Hillyer, dated March 9, was read, in which he says he regards it as utterly immaterial to the issues under the consideration the committee how long he remained in service or when Mr. Leet was atclerk, as at General Porter's special request erning certain records on these subjects and make his comments thereon. General Hillyer reshould be in possession of the exact facts in the case. He then proceeds to give them at length, stating that he (General Hillyer) left Vicksburg a week or two before the surrender of that place, owing to the fact that he was disabled from service by severe attacks of rheumatism, and did so under direction of the medical director. Although he was not literally at the fall of Vicksburg, he was there during all the offensive operations of the siege. He

but knew it was not customary at headquarters to made a permanent detail of clerks until their fitness ted by trial. For reasons stated by Hillyer the date of the detail cited by Porter was no evijoined headquarters; on the contrary, it is evidence he was at headquarters on trial for some time be-

fore. He concluded as follows:—

I stated to my testimony in New York that my impression was that Leet was detailed upon the recommendation of General Parker. If the stenographers reported me as saying General Porter they misunderstood me. I never saw or heard of General Porter until he joined the staff of General Grant during the latter part of the war. I regret that Porter did not consult with President Grant before testifying, I do not suppose the President could have informed Porter when Leet became a clerk at headquariers, but he would have informed him that I did not leave Vicksburg upon the taking effect of my resignation. I was not aware until I read General Porter's positive testimony that I left the army and went to St. Louis to practice law. My own recoilection was that I came to New York for that purpose.

Lesi became a cierk at beadquariers, but he would have informed him that id due of leave Vicksburg upon the taking effect of my resignation. I was not aware until I read General Potter's positive testimony that I left the army and went came to New York for that purpose.

TownLay's TestIMONY.

The examination of William H. Townley, assistant appraiser at New York, was resumed. He testified at length on the subject of damages, which were principally on green and dried firtits, spices and coffee. The witness, in answer to a question, and it would be unwise to abolish the Damage Bureau. He testified that James M. Thompson came into General Palmer's office to seek patronage; witness did not hear all the conversation; immediately atter Mr. Thompson left General Palmer told witness what Thompson left General Palmer told witness what Thompson left General Palmer unther informed witness that Thompson had said he could make arrangements with merchants by which both he and General Palmer could make arrangements with merchants by which both he and General Palmer could make arrangements with merchants by which both he and General Palmer could make arrangements with merchants of the contents of a memorandum of conversation between Palmer and Murphy, with regard to James Corrigan, a backer in the Appraisement office, which memorandum was taken down in shorthand and written out by request of Palmer. It appears that Murphy said that Corrigan, who was a member of the Eleventh District Republican Association, and as speech, in which he took ground against printing the roil of the district association. John V. Gridley, who procured the piace for Corrigan, took offence at this, and was not willing to have Corrigan removed, and mentioned his fact to the President. Palmer said to Murphy 801 long as Corrigan that the paperas that Murphy said the president selection of delegates; witness recollected General Palmer had holded to the president Palmer some things sould be done by them collectively toward the selection of delegates; witnes

he had

DINED WITH COLLECTOR GRINNELL

and Generals Porter and Babcock and several New
Yorkers at Wilard's Hotel. Leet subsequently
called upon him at his house in New York, the
object being to meet a gentieman, Mr. Jennings,
who could give him practical information
about the public order business and introduce
him to Mr. Bixby; Leet first informed Collector
Grinnell of his appointment and brought him his
commission, and Leas Stated to Withous after his

oross-examined by Senator Pratt witness said d not be certain that the dinner at Willard's ore or after Grinnel's appointment, but had ession that it was after; as to LEET'S TREAT TO GRINNELL, mily contented by lurgel with repeating it

Leet's THREAT TO GRINNELL,
Leet simply contented himself with repeating it
to the witness, who fet no particular interest in the
matter, as it was a republican fight. Having been
asked whether it did not appear strange to him that
Leet should make such a threat to a man of Mr.
Grinnell's standing witness repited that a man
might say a good many things in the spirit of apprehended disappointment. It struck him from
Leet's representation that Mr. Grinnell himself
would give him the \$5,000.

In reply to Senator Eavard, the witness said that
Mr. Leet exhibited to him only a single letter,
namely, that from the President; It was at his
second interview with Mr. Leet that he (Leet) informed him that the matter of his getting the
general order business was settled at
THE DINNER AT WILLARD'S HOTEL
at which Mr. Grinnell, Generals Porter and Babcock
and others were present.
Senator Casserly also cross-examined the witness,
who said that, from conversation with Mr. Leet, he
inferred that he (Leet) was well endorsed at the
Walte House; this was in May, 1869.

Q. Did you understand what particular interest Generals Porter and Babcock had in the
getting of the general order business?
Wirness—I did not.

Q. Date created from the control of the general order business, getting of the general order business, with the committee then adjourned until to-morrow the committee then adjourned until to-morrow the committee then adjourned until to-morrow the committee that the committee the committee that the committee the committee that the comm

### OUR SHIPPING INTERESTS.

Interesting Report to Congress by Secretary Robeson.

Protection of Home Manufactures and Steamship Subsidies Recommended-How England Grew Great-The Great Bepartments of Industry Interdependent.

tatives to-day:-

sion at a time when higher duties than those of extending trade occupied our attention, and the temporary precedence over us sained by others should not be counted reasons for discouragement, but incentives to action, that we may regain a substance of excellence in the ships over which it is displayed.

Our first endeavor, then, should be to stimulate the building in our own waters by our own workmon of the ships that are provided to the ship of the ship in the ship of the ship of the ship in the ship of the ship of the ship in the ship in the ship of the ship in the ship in the ship of the ship in the ship in the ship of the ship in the ship in the ship of the ship in the ship in

and exports of Great

\$798,743,89

mande by these steamship intest it has reached, at the close of and for the last fixed year the sum of nearly three billion dollars.

The career of England is thus briefly aliuded to, because, to a certain extent, ours must necessarily be similar in its progress. We manufacture the same description of cotton and woolien fabrics—the same kinds and many additional kinds of labor-saving machinery. We have inerhaustible supplies of superior coal and of metallic orea, each and all of which can be brought to the prepared condition for sale at a coat regularly leasning as the price of labor is becoming nearer equalized in the two countries. There is now a rapid tendency to this equality. The price of labor is negmenting in Europe, while it is somewhat decreasing with us, and will continue to decrease as new railroads bring new lands into profitable production and obeap and safe transportation on our interior waters shall reduce and equalize the cost of the necessaries of life.

The aggregate of our foreign commerce for the year 1870 was \$692.489.790. The aggregate of that of England in 1838, the period of commencing steam enterprise, was \$798.744.897. At that period England had all her elements of commerce ready, but required more rapid means of reaching and creating markets to make them a source of national wealth. Such is now our position.

We are more than one hundred and sixty-three millions of

was \$603,603,700. The aggregate of that of congrand in 1878, the period of commencing steam enterprise, was \$758,743,897. At that period England had all her elements of commerce ready, but required more rapid means of reaching and creating markets to make them a source of national wealth. Such is now our position.

We are more than one hundred and sixty-three millions of dollars by developed commerce in advance of what England was in 1835. We are proportionally much more in advance of what she was at that period in manufactures and arts, but we are in her position at that time in regard to markets and the means of reaching them.

She had recourse to the building of steamships, to the encouragement of her people in the formation of lines of steamers to distant foreign ports; but her co-ordinate departments of the government, the Admiralty, the Post Oilee and fixed upon such ports as seemed adapted to the objects sought. Parliament would not be confused by, nor have its time wasted upon, the discussion of fruitless and visionary schemes; but the well digested plans of the departments were approved, and government alt to the extent of, as arready stated, \$105,710,916, has been paid in the complete establishment of her commercial and mail lines of steamships, not from a single port, but from the main outports of the country.

Routes should be selected with reference to our productions and their appropriate markets.

In view of these reflections it is respectfully suggested whether we may not, by some well considered plan, establish, in aid of our industries, lines of ocean steam communication which will place American bull useamships upon leading commercial routes, making our Aliantic and our main Facilic ports the termin of such lines as shall be best adapted to develope the trade of the country which lies behind them.

In the formation of ocean steamship routes not only tae present, but the future requirements of commerce should be secured by leases or treaty silputakons. Other steamship lines could then councet

perfect circle and more frequent and proficible voyages. By such facilities the manufactures and products gathered at each of our home ports would reach diversified and greater broad of the content of the content of the content of the foreign products to be received in exchange would naturally result.

What we had sent and that which was to come thenes to us would be borne by a single and cheaper means, the profits of the carriage in each case resulting to us, and the duties to be collected on the imports or return cargoes would probably repay the amount of outlay by the government in any scheme which may be adopted.

In this manner commerce, divested of many of its burdens, would yield none the less to the revenues of the country, while its leasened cost would rapidly increase the national wealth.

By this plan, for illustration, a single depot in the Mediterranean might place any one of the Attantic cities in direct connection and exchange with the ports of Spain, the south of France, Italy, Austris, Turkey, Morocoo, Tunis, Tripoli, Arabia, Persia and nearly all the East Indies.

Another favorably located depot in the West Indies would serve as receiving and distributing point for exchanges with each of the islands of the Caribbean Sea (or West Indies), as well as for Columbia, Venezuela, Guiana, Brazil, Uruguay and the Argentine Republic.

To this one central depot any or all of our Atlantic cities could establish steam lines which, besides placing any one or more of these cities in connection with the others in coast line voyages, would enable each to participate in the direct counter of South America.

Another depot properly located on the America pishmus would, if these cities excended the voyages of their same stereto, place such city in almost direct traits with the west coast of South America.

Looking to the future needs of the productions of their same story kind if we fare must be to give full scope to our varied industries. There must have to a productions of every kind if we fare must be to them t

should strive rather than expect at once to reach, and a suggest the general action which seems to me the most practical for its dual attainment, and if I have made any suggestion or given any information which is found to be of value I shall be more than repaid.

I cannot, as I have before said, assume, even under the sanction of your resolution, to point out or recommend to what extent or under what asfaguards the government should afford its assistance to these objects mentioned.

This is wholly for the representatives of the people, with whom is the power and the responsibility. I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE M. ROBESON, Secretary of the Navy.

Hon. SCHUTLER COLFAX, Vice President of the United States and President of the Senate.

## ART SALES.

The Goupil Collection.

The paintings which have been on exhibition at Leavitt's Art Rooms for the past week will be sold to-night at Clinton Hall. We have stready announced that the retiring of one of the partners of the Goupil firm renders the unreserved sale of these works necessary in order to allow of the closing up of the accounts. Though the quality of the works composing the collection is poor there are some paintings of merit, which deserve attention. Among these, Duverger's companion pictures, "Vice and

paintings of merit, which deserve attention. Among these, Duverger's companion pictures, "Vice and Misery," "Happiness and Industry," which convey an unequivocal moral with force and directness. Laudelle's "Prisoners in Tangiers" is a carefully executed work, well drawn and highly finished. Some foreign landscapes, of which we most forcibly recall Emile Breton's "Village by Moonlight," a picture which possesses a weird interest, and a fresh, strongly painted picture by De Koek.

There are two ambilious historical paintings by Hamman, "The Battle of Sograno," A. D. 1191, and the—"The Siege of Sienna," A. D. 1563. There are a few others deserving of mention, but we have not space, Among the pictures there are doubless very many that the would suit public, who are not so cratically exacting as we must necessarily be, to whom this same public looks for guidance and instruction. Indeed, most of the pictures which we exclude from mention would not compare unfavorably with the majority of works which are to be seen in the houses of some people who buy pictures as they buy furniture—simply to adorn their dwellings, without any knowledge of their artistic value. The sale to-night will afford this class an opportunity to purchase works which have a certain merit at reasonable prices, as the competition of the better class of art collectors is not much to be leared, and we have been assured that every work will be disposed of without reserve at the price the public wish to offer.

A collection of paintings, numbering some hundred examples, by native and foreign artists, will be offered for sale at this auction room on Thursday and Friday. Many of the pictures are of considerable merit, and deserve to find ready purchasers. One little landscape by James hart is full of exquisite feeling, and displays that artist's rapidly increasing strength and decision in color. Sontag. Brevoort, Shattuck, Van Etten, &c., are also represented.

# ENGLISH RACING NOTES.

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An item in connection with stud news in the English papers is the announcement of the death of Sundower, who was shot a short time ago. The mare had reached her twenty-fifth year, and her feet were so fearfully crippled that she could not stand on them toward the end of her career. Sundower never ran in public, and her duties at the stud commenced when she was three years old. One of her daughters—Sunneam—won the St. Léger for Mr. Merry in 1855, and the seventeen animals which she produced, and who raced, won £28,088. She was the dam of Crocus, the unlucky Sunlight, who was killed while running for the St. Leger.

#### THE COMPTROLLER'S PAYMENTS. Comptroller Green made the following payments

pesterday, viz:—
Department of Buildings—Salaries of officers, cierks, inspectors, &c., for months of October, November and December, 1871, 893,885 24.
Bureau of County Affairs—Salaries, January and February, 1872, 81,300.
In addition to the above the sum of \$4,380 was paid to 146 persons for services as inspectors. Cally vassers. Doll clerks. &c., at last election.